

Maryland Park Service 2017 Annual Report

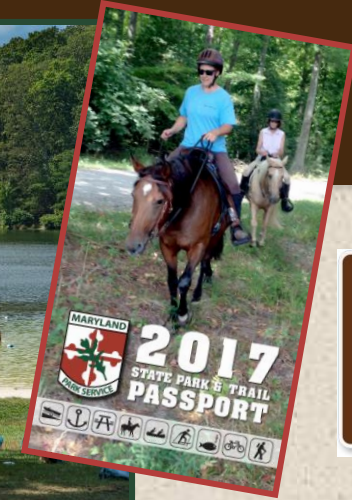


- Park Operations
- Customer Service
- Natural Resource Conservation
- Cultural and Historic Conservation
- Interpretive Programming and Education
- Signature Events
- Conservation Corps Programs
- Capital and Critical Maintenance Improvements
- Trail Improvements
- Park Planning and Conservation
- Employee Development and Administration



PARK OPERATIONS

Hired more than **700+** contractual employees to assist with busy, summer season operations



Served
14.4 million
visitors

Greenbrier State Park

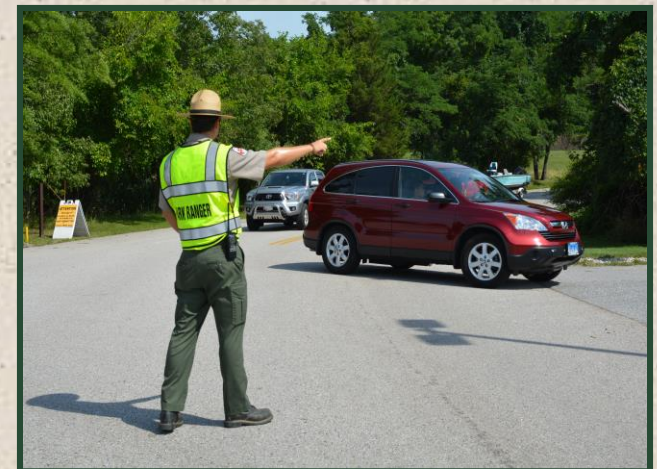
Sold **7,860 Annual Passes** and
8,953 Golden Age Passes



Managed **137,716**
acres in **72** State Parks



Point Lookout State Park



Filled **18** parks to capacity **122** times

CUSTOMER SERVICE



Camp Hosts at Greenbrier State Park



Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park

721 volunteers logged **97,965 hours of service** valued at **\$2,364,865**

95 percent of visitors surveyed said that visiting State Parks is one of the best ways to “*spend time with family*”



New Germany State Park cabin

Launched **NEW** online reservation system for camping, cabins, and pavilion reservations

Governor Larry Hogan announced that all military veterans will be granted

FREE admission to all State Parks



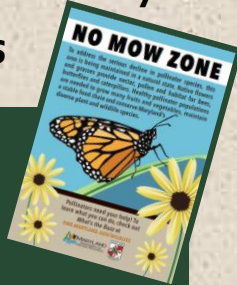
LET'S GO CAMPING!



NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION



Treated **4,813** hemlocks to prevent the spread of hemlock woolly adelgid and **300** trees affected by emerald ash borer in **15** state parks



NO MOW ZONE



For additional information, please contact the Maryland Department of the Environment at 410-261-7000 or visit the website at www.mde.state.md.us.
The Maryland Department of the Environment is a natural resource agency. It is responsible for protecting the state's natural resources, including the environment, forests, and water. It also manages the state's parks and recreation system.

Solar and energy-saving improvements at *Sandy Point State Park* will **REDUCE** the Park's **ENERGY USE BY 45 percent**



Sandy Point State Park

NEW partnership with State Highway Administration implemented to restore and prevent pollution from entering streams

Developed and enhanced **over 7,000 acres** of pollinator habitat

Bloede dam removal project launched to restore fish passage on Patapsco at Patapsco Valley State Park



Bloede Dam



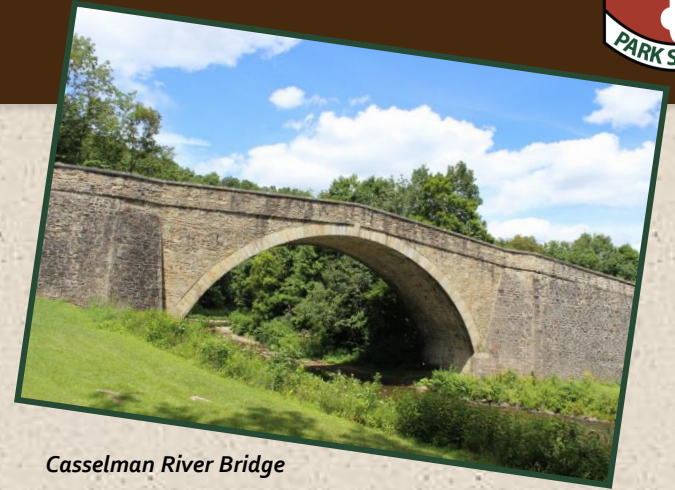
Rosaryville State Park bioretention area

CULTURAL & HISTORIC CONSERVATION



Washington Monument State Park

Washington Monument State Park celebrated the **225 anniversary celebration** of the town of Boonsboro. The town built the monument on July 4th, 1827 making it 190 years old



Casselman River Bridge

Signed a memorandum of understanding with **Maryland Historical Trust** to strengthen our partnership preserving and protecting historic resources in state parks



Determined eligibility for designation on **National Historic Register** for Sang Run Election House, built in late 1800s

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMMING AND EDUCATION



221,382 visitor participants
engaged in programs and events



On its **10th** anniversary, **PARK QUEST**
was offered in **18 Parks** with **800**
family teams participating



**The Healthy Parks,
Healthy People
Program**



Maryland Conservation Corps
members, staff, and volunteers
taught **environmental**
education to over **45,000**
school-age children



launched in 2017 in partnership
with Maryland Health
Department. Staff and volunteers
led 2,617 participants in Western
Maryland and the Eastern Shore in
425 programs, and doctors wrote
82 park prescriptions to patients

SIGNATURE EVENTS



Supported cultural and historic events, including *Fort Frederick State Park's* annual 18th Century Market Fair, which attracted more than **11,000 visitors** and *Cunningham Falls State Park's* Maple Syrup Festival, attended by nearly **8,000 visitors**



Maple Syrup Festival



Market Fair



Over **900** visitors attended "**Es Mi Parque**" outreach events for Hispanic visitors hosted at State Parks



Es Mi Parque – Sandy Point State Park

2,034

people began the 2017 New Year hiking in the State Park's annual **First Day Hike**, logging 4,030 miles

CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAMS



Veteran Conservation Corps members planted 575 native trees in southern Maryland State Parks, cleaned 3.5 miles of shoreline on the Potomac River and removed 20 acres of invasive species

404 Maryland youth completed the Conservation Jobs Corps program in 2017. Participants (ages 14-17) completed this 5-week summer job, learning life skills training, while participating in conservation service projects in Maryland State Parks



Trail work at Patapsco Valley State Park



2017 MCC Members



35 Maryland Conservation Corps members maintained **247 miles of trails**, improved **2,083 acres of park and public lands**, benefiting one million visitors

CAPITAL AND CRITICAL MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENTS



Completed **new kayak launch site** at Wye Island Natural Resource Management Area



Wye Island Natural Resource Management Area



Opened **NEW Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center** on March 10. In 2017, the center was visited by 93,932 people representing all 50 States, the District of Columbia, 4 US Territories, and 58 countries worldwide



Completed first fully-accessible (ADA) playground at Patapsco Valley State Park



TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS



The Maryland Park Service maintains
957 miles of trails



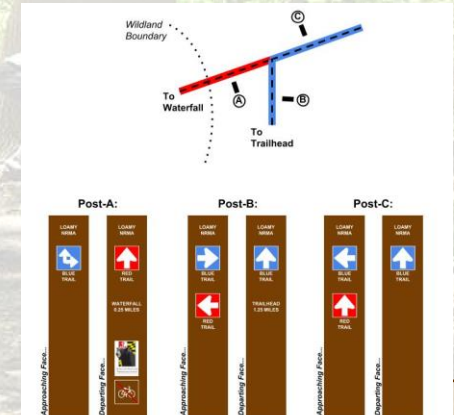
Patapsco Valley State Park

Completed initial loop and
began second loop trail at
Palmer State Park



Western Maryland Rail Trail

Began construction of 4.5
mile extension of the
**Western Maryland
Rail Trail**



Developed **NEW** trail wayfinding
and signage plan for State Parks

PARK PLANNING AND CONSERVATION



Acquired **460 acres** of land in Cecil County to create the new **Bohemia River State Park**



Bohemia River State Park



Opened *new* 80 acre **Sang Run State Park**, home of historic Friends Store and Election House in Garrett County



Friends Store

NEW Strategic Management Plans were finalized and posted for Fort Frederick, New Germany, Smallwood and Susquehanna State Parks



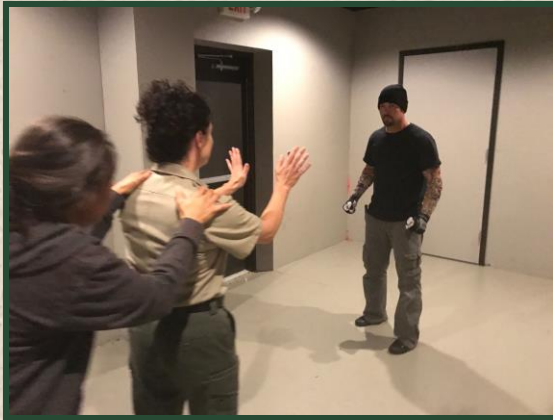
Unveiling of new sign at Sang Run State Park

EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION



19

New Rangers graduated from Ranger School at New Germany State Park



Close Quarters Defense training scenario

Initiated *new*, **Close Quarters Defense** training



Emergency Medical Response training



Lifeguards at Assateague State Park

Staff obtained **lifeguard instructor training** through American Red Cross

Completed new **Opioid Response** policy, training and purchased narkan supply



Larry Hogan, Governor



Mark Belton, Secretary

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dnr.maryland.gov